Sri V. R. KRISHNA AYYAR :—" Sir, has an enquiry been instituted into these accidents and have suggestions been made to these factories to avoid them? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir."

Sri K. P. GOPALAN :—" Sir, is it a fact that even first-aid arrangements are not provided in most of the factories in Baliapatam which is an industrial town? May I request the Hon. Minister to enquire into the matter and see that proper first-aid arrangements are made in the factories according to the Factories Act? May I also request the Hon. Minister to give necessary instructions to the management to see that some protective arrangements are made to see that such accidents do not occur in future? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I shall enquire whether proper first-aid arrangements have been made."

Dr. K. B. MENON :—" Besides first-aid arrangements, will the Hon. Minister be pleased to see that permanent safety measures are taken to protect the workers from accidents? "

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" Sir, I have no doubt the Factories Department have been looking into these matters."

" *Byssinosis* "

* 764 *Q.*—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state whether any disease known as Bissions is prevalent among industrial workers particularly those in textile mills?

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" The disease referred to is presumably ' Byssinosis '

The enquiry shows that the disease is not prevalent in Indian textile mills to any appreciable extent."

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY :—" Sir, may I know whether any investigation was made to find out the prevalence of this disease in the State? "

The Hon. Sri A. B. SHETTY :—" An enquiry into the prevalence of this disease was conducted under the auspices of the Indian Council of Medical Research in Madurai in 1949 and 1950. As already stated, enquiry showed that the disease is not prevalent to any appreciable degree in the Indian textile mills."

Sri M. JAGANNATHAN :—" Sir, the name ' Byssinosis ' is rather ununderstandable. May I know what is the name of the disease in ordinary common parlance, Sir? "

REFERENCE BOOK

17th February 1955]

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it has no other name in ordinary parlance. I understand that the workers in the clow and card rooms of spinning mills in England complain of cough bronchitis and asthma which subside as soon as the work is stopped."

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Has this disease anything to do with widowers, Sir? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, it has probably something to do with newly married people." (Laughter.)

SRI S. PAKKIRISWAMY PILLAI :—" Sir, I know that there are certain workers in the Buckingham and Carnatic Mills who are found to be suffering from this disease. I would like to know whether the Government would make the necessary investigation among the workers of these mills and have this disease notified as an occupational disease? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Sir, the hon. Member may write to the Government about this and I shall have enquiries made."

Concessional bus fare for voters

* 765 *Q.*—SRI M. NARAYANA KURUP : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government instructed any bus transport owners of Malabar to carry passengers who produced slips from certain recognized persons at rates lower than the minimum of five annas prescribed, so as to help voters who were expected to vote for Congress in the recent Malabar District Board elections ;

(*b*) whether the Palghat Central Transport Authority allowed such concessions as mentioned in clause (*a*) ; and

(*c*) if so, at whose instance?

THE HON. SRI S. S. RAMASAMY PADAYACHI :—" (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir.

" (*c*) Does not arise."

... ...

... ...

Beedi industry

* 766 *Q.*—SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state— 11-10 a.m.

(*a*) whether any offer of financial assistance to give protection to the beedi industry has been received from the Central Government ; and

(*b*) if so, the method by which protection is to be given to beedi industry in this State?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir

" (*b*) Does not arise."